

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SERIAL NO.:

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ART UNIT:

TITLE: CONTINUOUS PROCESSES FOR
PREPARING CONCENTRATED
AQUEOUS LIQUID BIOCIDAL
COMPOSITIONS

EXAMINER:

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the following amendment:

In The Specification:

At Page 1, line 2, after the word "This" insert -- application is a continuation of copending Application No. 09/451,344, filed November 30, 1999, which --.

At Page 1, line 3, delete "[Case SU-7073-C]" and insert -- 09/422,025 --.

At Page 1, line 4, after the term "Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) No. 09/088,300," insert -- now issued as United States Patent No. 6,068,861, --.

At Page 2, line 15, after the term "copending continued prosecution application" insert -- , now issued as United States Patent No. 6,068,861, --.

At Page 9, line 18, delete -- aqueous alkali metal sulfamate --.

At Page 9, line 20, delete -- an overbased alkali metal sulfamate --.

At Page 9, line 20, after "Most preferably this solution is" insert -- a --.

At Page 9, line 21, after "The pH of the concentrated" insert -- solution --.

At Page 12, line 2, after "contents" insert -- of --.

At Page 13, line 4, after "sulfamic" insert -- acid --.

REMARKS

The changes on Pages 1 and 2 reflect the issuance of Applicants' ultimate parent application 09/088,300 as U.S. Patent No. 6,068,861.

As presently written, the paragraph on Page 9, lines 17-23, inadvertently contain several statements that are demonstrably erroneous in view of the remainder of the specification. The solution emanating from the mixing apparatus is not an "aqueous alkali metal sulfamate solution," but rather a bromo alkali metal sulfamate solution referred to elsewhere in the specification as the "resulting product solution" coming from a mixing apparatus (Page 10, lines 5-6), "product solution" coming from a mixing apparatus 20 (Page 12, lines 23-24) or "concentrated stabilized liquid biocidal formulation (Page 8, lines 8-9). This product has a pH of at least 7 (Page 4, lines 17 and 23).

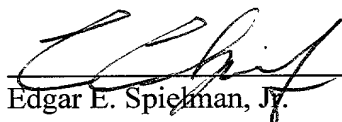
An overbased alkali metal sulfamate solution is being fed into the mixing apparatus when it mixes with bromine chloride to produce the resulting product solution. See Fig. 1, where the drawing shows an "overbased sodium sulfamate solution" being fed from the reactors 30 and 40 to the mixing apparatus 20. This step is described at Page 12, lines 12-14. The sulfamic acid and sodium hydroxide forming the sodium sulfamate solution are preferably proportioned to give a pH between 13 and 14, which is certainly "overbased."

The last sentence of the paragraph on Page 9 is not clear unless the concentrated solution refers to the bromo solution emanating from the mixing apparatus. Otherwise, the concentrated solution would be the same as the aqueous metal sulfamate solution feeding into the mixing apparatus.

These errors are corrected by the proposed modifications in the specification.

Since the paragraph on Page 9, lines 17-23, is not clear and since the corrections to that paragraph make it consistent with the remainder of the specification, Applicants respectfully request that this amendment be entered.

Respectfully submitted,


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